

Percentage of chemicals in soft drinks

404. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of percentage of phosphoric acid, chemical sweetner called Aspartame and anti-freeze compound permitted in soft drinks;
- (b) whether tests have been conducted with regard to soft drinks, having excess percentage of these chemicals in view of international studies having shown many serious side-effects caused by these chemicals including damage to nervous and brain system, when used in excess;
- (c) if so, the action taken in this regard and the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether Government would direct all soft drinks companies to disclose the various additives on their container?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) to (d) The PFA Rules 1955 permit addition of Phosphoric acid -600ppm (max), and aspartame 700ppm (max), in carbonated water. Anti-freeze compounds are not permitted to be added in carbonated water. The limits are fixed on the basis of consumption pattern, acceptable daily intake (ADI), and toxicological evaluation.

(e) Rule 32 of PFA Rules 1955 provides that food additives falling in the respective classes and appearing in the lists of food additives permitted for use in foods generally, class titles shall be used together with the specific names or recognized international numerical identifications. Non-compliances of Labeling provision attract penal provision under PFA Act 1954.

Utilization of fruits and vegetables

405. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state: